

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OIC-04 AEC-11

OMB-01 DRC-01 /164 W

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R 202112Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 664

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 9607

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING,
19 NOVEMBER 1973

1. BEGIN SUMMARY:, AD HOC GROUP MET AT FRG EMBASSY
ON AFTERNOON OF 19 NOVEMBER UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF
NETHERLANDS REP (QUARLES). NETHERLANDS REP REPORTED
THAT NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND INTERNATIONAL
MILITARY STAFF HAD TAKEN QUARTERS IN ALLIED COMMON
FACILITY IN RENNWEG BUILDING. SECRETARY OF AD HOC
GROUP (DE BURLET) REPORTED THAT CONFERENCE ROOM IN RENNWEG
WOULD NOT BE READY BEFORE FEBRUARY UNLESS AHG INSISTED. AHG
DECIDED TO ASK FOR SOMEONE CONNECTED WITH RENNWEG
TO REPORT TO AHG IN HOPE OF GAINING EARLIER RESULTS.
FRG DEPREP (HOFFMAN) DISTRIBUTED MEMORANDUM OF
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CONVERSATION BETWEEN FRG REP (BEHREND) AND SOVIET

REPS KHLESTOV AND KVITSINSKIY (SEPTTEL). US DEPREP REPORTED CONVERSATION WITH SOVIET REP KVITSINSKIY (VIENNA 9564). AHG DECIDED TO PRESENT REGULAR 3-WEEK REPORT TO NAC ON 30 NOVEMBER AS SCHEDULED, SUBJECT TO NAC ACCEPTANCE, AND TO PREPARE BY 30 NOVEMBER SUMMARY REPORT COVERING COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS SINCE 30 OCTOBER FOR NAC TO INCORPORATE INTO BRIEFS FOR NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING IN EARLY DECEMBER. GROUP DISCUSSED UK DRAFT STATEMENT ON DATA BASE PREPARED FOR PRESENTATION IN 20 NOVEMBER PLENARY (SEPTTEL). IN LIGHT OF UNCERTAINTY ABOUT HAVING ALLIANCE AGREEMENT ON FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL IN TIME FOR PRESENTATION AT 22 NOVEMBER PLENARY, AHG DECIDED THAT AT 20 NOVEMBER PLENARY, LUXEMBOURG CHAIRMAN SHOULD ANNOUNCE PLENARY FOR 22 NOVEMBER. IT WOULD THEN BE LEFT TO BELGIAN-POLISH BILATERAL CHANNEL TO REPORT TO NEXT CHAIRMAN WHETHER ANY PARTICIPANT ACTUALLY WANTED TO SPEAK ON 22 NOVEMBER. AHG REVIEWED AND MADE MINOR CHANGES TO US DRAFT STATEMENT WHICH WILL INTRODUCE FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL IN PLENARY SESSION. END SUMMARY.

2. ALLIED COMMON FACILITY IN RENNWEG BUILDING: CHAIRMAN REPORTED THAT INTERNATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF HAD TAKEN UP QUARTERS IN RENNWEG BUILDING. AHG SECRETARY REPORTED THAT RENNWEG CONFERENCE ROOM WOULD NOT BE READY BEFORE FEBRUARY UNLESS AHG INSISTED ON ACQUIRING FURNISHINGS AND CARPETING IN VIENNA INSTEAD OF BRUSSELS. HE REPORTED THAT WALL HAD BEEN KNOCKED DOWN TO MAKE CONFERENCE ROOM LARGER. CHAIRMAN ASKED THAT SOMEONE WITH KNOWLEDGE OF PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN GAINING EARLY USE OF RENNWEG CONFERENCE ROOM COME TO REPORT TO AHG, STATING PERSONAL VIEW THAT FURNISHINGS PROBLEM DID NOT WARRANT DELAY.

3. BILATERAL CONTACTS: FRG DEPREP DISTRIBUTED REPORT OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN FRG REP AND SOVIET REPS KHLESTOV AND KVITSINSKIY (SEPTTEL), NOTING THAT CONVERSATION WAS SIMILAR TO ONE IN WHICH ACCUSED WAS

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QUESTIONED BY TWO DISTRICT ATTORNEYS. UK REP (ROSE) STATED THAT HE HAD IMPRESSION FROM CONVERSATION WITH SOVIETS ON 15 NOVEMBER THAT SMIRNOVSKY'S TASK WAS TO SOFTEN UP UK AND THAT APPARENTLY NOW KVITSINSKIY'S TASK IS TO ASSIST IN SOFTENING UP FRG. CHAIRMAN NOTED WITH INTEREST ROSE'S REPORT (VIENNA 9512) THAT SOVIETS WERE NOW MAKING ARGUMENT THAT WEST IGNORED DISPARITIES, SUCH AS FACT THAT SOVIET SECURITY

INTERESTS WERE MORE DIRECTLY AT STAKE IN CENTRAL EUROPE GIVEN SOVIET GEOGRAPHIC PROXIMITY TO THE AREA AS COMPARED TO US. CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED THAT ALLIES SHOULD MAKE POINT TO SOVIETS THAT FOR THIS REASON THEY SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN STABILIZING MEASURES. US DEPREP ADDED THAT ALLIES SHOULD REFER TO PAST SOVIET INTEREST IN SURPRISE ATTACK PROPOSALS AND SEEK TO BUILD ON THESE. CHAIRMAN ALSO SUGGESTED MAKING POINT TO SOVIETS THAT WITHDRAWAL BY A FEW HUNDRED KILOMETERS WOULD NOT AFFECT THEIR DEFENSE CAPABILITIES.

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USNMR SHAPE

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FROM US REP MBFR

4. US DEPREP REPORTED ON CONVERSATION WITH KVITSINSKIY ON 16 NOVEMBER (VIENNA 9564). HE REPORTED THAT KVITSINSKIY HAD SOUGHT TO PLAY DOWN DISTANCE ARGUMENT IN LIGHT OF 1600 US AIRCRAFT AVAILABLE FOR TRANSPORTATION. US DEPREP HAD REPLIED THAT SOVIETS

THEMSELVES USED AIRCRAFT FOR THEIR TROOP MOVEMENTS WHICH RETAINED THE DISPARITY IN THIS REGARD, BUT LEFT IT INTACT FOR OTHER MOVEMENTS. US DEPREP ALSO REPORTED THAT KVITSINSKIY REJECTED COMMON CEILING FOR GROUND FORCES BUT SEEMED TO INDICATE COMMON CEILING CONCEPT MIGHT BE A POSSIBILITY IF IT INCLUDED AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AND IF FIGURE WERE SET AT ABOUT 850,000. US DEPREP SUGGESTED THAT THIS FIGURE MIGHT GIVE ALLIES SOME IDEA OF DATA BASE SOVIETS WERE USING IN THEIR CALCULATIONS. US DEPREP ALSO REPORTED THAT KVITSINSKIY HAD SAID THAT SOVIETS HAD
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FORMULATED THEIR PROPOSAL ONLY IN LATE OCTOBER.

5. AHG REPORT TO NAC AND NATO MINISTERIAL: CHAIRMAN STATED THAT WHEN HE WAS VISITING NETHERLANDS NATO DELEGATION ON 9 NOVEMBER, NETHERLANDS DELEGATION HAD RAISED QUESTION OF DELAYING AHG REPORT TO NAC FROM 30 NOVEMBER TO EARLY DECEMBER SO THAT IT WOULD BE UP TO DATE FOR NAC MINISTERIAL 10-11 DECEMBER. US DEPREP PROPOSED, AND AHG AGREED, TO PRESENT REGULAR 3-WEEK REPORT TO NAC ON 30 NOVEMBER, SUBJECT TO NAC AGREEMENT, AND TO FORWARD ON 30 NOVEMBER SEPARATE REPORT FOR USE BY CAPITALS IN BRIEFING MINISTERS ON NEGOTIATIONS SINCE OCTOBER 30. ANY REQUIRED UPDATE OF REPORT COULD BE MADE PRIOR TO MINISTERIAL.

6. UK DRAFT PRESENTATION ON DATA: UK DRAFT PRESENTATION ON DATA WAS NEXT CONSIDERED (FINAL TEXT SENT SEPTEL). IN DISCUSSING A UK PARAGRAPH INVITING WARSAW PACT COMMENTS ON DATA, THE UK REP ARGUED STRONGLY THAT EAST-WEST AGREEMENT ON DATA WAS NECESSARY. THE US REP RESPONDED THAT THE NATO COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT IMPLY ANY LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN THEIR OWN FIGURES BY APPEARING TO SEEK EASTERN CORROBORATION OR CORRECTIONS. MOREOVER, AN INEVITABLY LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF DATA COULD SIDETRACK THE PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS BY DIVERTING IT FROM THE BASIC ISSUES OF ALLIED PROPOSAL. FINALLY, HE NOTED THAT ALLIED PROPOSAL WAS DESIGNED SO AS NOT TO REQUIRE EXPLICIT NATO-PACT AGREEMENT ON DATA. THE BELGIAN ACTING REP SAID THAT ALLIES WOULD OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF PACT COMMENTS ON DATA IF THEY ARE MADE, BUT NATO SHOULD NOT INVITE THEM. FRG REP WONDERED WHETHER, SINCE IT IS IN THE WESTERN INTEREST TO DISCUSS DISPARITIES, A DISCUSSION ON DATA WOULD NOT HELP NATO'S CASE. ITALIAN REP AGREED, AND NOTED THAT NATO COUNTRIES HAVE RAISED DATA IN BILATERAL CONTACTS. US REP RESPONDED THAT NATO'S

FIGURES DEMONSTRATE THE EXISTING DISPARITIES ON THEIR
FACE UNLESS CHALLENGED. ALLIES SHOULD NOT THEREFORE
ASK FOR SUCH A CHALLENGE. NETHERLANDS REP NOTED THAT
IN A DATA DISCUSSION THE PACT WOULD BE LIKELY TO
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BRING UP AIR FORCES; IN GENERAL, HE SAW NO ADVANTAGE
IN INVITING SUCH A CHALLENGE. IN VIEW OF BROAD
AGREEMENT, UK REP AGREED TO DELETION OF PASSAGE CALLING
FOR EXCHANGES ON DATA. AFTER OTHER ADDITIONAL
EDITORIAL CHANGES, THE TEXT WAS APPROVED.

7. ARRANGEMENTS FOR 22 NOVEMBER PLENARY:
CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT GDR WAS SCHEDULED TO SPEAK AT
PLENARY NOVEMBER 20, BUT NO OTHER PACT REPRESENTATIVE.
US REP SUGGESTED THAT IN FUTURE, EASTERN REPS
BE REFERRED TO TO THE BELGIAN-POLISH CHANNEL DESIGNED
FOR SUCH BUSINESS, ALLOWING TIME FOR A NATO TACTICAL
RESPONSE, IF DESIRED. WITH REFERENCE TO WHETHER OR
NOT A PLENARY FOR NOVEMBER 22 SHOULD BE ANNOUNCED
ON NOVEMBER 20, UK REP PREFERRED NOT TO SCHEDULE A
NATO SPEAKER ON NOVEMBER 22, PRESENTING THE FRAMEWORK
PROPOSAL ON NOVEMBER 27. CANADIAN REP PROPOSED THAT
LUXEMBOURG CHAIRMAN AT THE NOVEMBER 20 PLENARY
ANNOUNCE THAT FOLLOWING PLENARY WOULD BE SCHEDULED
BY CONSULTATION. ITALIAN REP THOUGHT IT LIKELY THAT
THE FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL COULD BE CLEARED BY THE NAC
IN TIME FOR A NOVEMBER 22 PRESENTATION. FRG REP
WAS LESS OPTIMISTIC, BUT ARGUED THAT A NOVEMBER 22
PLENARY SHOULD BE SCHEDULED AND ANNOUNCED ON NOVEMBER
20 AND THAT THE FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL BE PRESENTED
ON NOVEMBER 22 IF POSSIBLE. THE AHG AGREED ON THIS.

8. US PRESENTATION ON FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL: THE US
DRAFT PRESENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL WAS
REVIEWED, WITH A NUMBER OF EDITORIAL CHANGES PROPOSED
AND ACCEPTED. IT WAS AGREED TO MAKE THE FORMULATION
ON FLANK INTERESTS CONFORM WITH WHATEVER LANGUAGE
NAC AGREED ON. US DRAFT WILL BE REVIEWED AGAIN AT
THE NEXT AHG MEETING, NOVEMBER 20. HUMES

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